Background Music:

Announcer:

Welcome to The Podcast to be Named Later, where we explore the world a conversation at a time. Sit back and enjoy. Here are your hosts, Chris and Kelly.

Kelly:

Hello everyone and welcome to another episode of the podcast to be named later. I'm Kelly with my co-host Chris. Hi Chris.

Chris:

Hey Kelly.

Kelly:

I want to start this podcast out with some very sober and somber news about DeMar Hamlin of the Buffalo Bills Chris, we watched that game last night and I know we exchanged some text messages about. What that event was like to see a player a human being? Get hurt and go down in athletic competition.

Chris:

Yeah it was. One-of-a-kind experience to this point in my life, and I hope I never have to experience again. Kelly, it was just one of the most horrific things I've ever seen in sports and. Just bizarre the the you know people get hurt in in sports all the time, especially in football. You know it's it's a regular thing and we've seen some pretty gruesome injuries over the years. You know, spinal cord damage and and just horrific, you know. Visual visuals of injuries. But what happened last night was. You know just a feeling that I had never experienced before. In all the years that I've been following sports and and in the moment and in the you know hour or so to follow, I can honestly say I've never had the emotion that I was feeling last night. Ever before in in watching a sporting competition and you know we don't have a lot of information right now. You know, I, you know, I've been following the best I can and and right at the moment you know they're keeping things pretty close to the to the chest, but I thought it was a kind gesture and a selfless act that the family released a statement kind of giving an update earlier today. Something that they did absolutely. Didn't have to do, but they chose to because I think there's a overwhelming feeling collectively across. Just not only the league but but all all of us fans who follow it that you know everyone's kind of unified in in their feelings right now. And just hoping that demars OK and and the medical staff does what they need to do to to keep him that way, I think.

Kelly:

For me I. It's one of those events that you know we've talked. We've touched on this several times that you know, these people are athletes, but they're human beings. First and foremost, they're sons, fathers you know across the athletic spectrum, mothers, daughters, depending on what you know who they are. Yet we all because of. I think that fandom and what brings sports home to us. We kind of feel the connection to the teams and to the players in ways that we don't maybe always realize, you know that we have an emotional connection as well. I think that's what it reminded me of that last night, and you feel for. Everybody on the team. I mean, you see some of the headlines and I just think about this. I mean the young man's mother was in the stands and they have to go get her out of the stands to have her come in the ambulance with him to the hospital. And just hearing the stadium and the quietness I I honestly don't know that in my time of sports I've had a feeling like that, either of just. Honestly, I know Chris when we, you know our last podcast we you know we had had other plans of what was going to happen, but. And we follow football and we we have events that go on outside of here. We've talked about our pick, competition and fantasy football and many other things I. I honestly don't care about any of it right now. What I what I care about is how is this? How is this young man and what's his status?

Chris:

Yeah, and this this whole everything that's taking place. You know from from the moment the injury happened and then you know all the events that ensued immediately. You know, it's just, uh, it's kind of hard for me to believe, you know, the reality is Kelly. People die every day all over and I want to be clear he you know he's he's not dead but he did need to be resuscitated and you know they they don't have an effect on me. You know people all over the all over the world. There's all kinds of things going on, and but for whatever reason, last night and and still to this point, you know, as we're recording this the following day, this just had an effect on me that I'm I'm kind of surprised by. And like you said, we, I mean there's a lot of things going on I got. All kinds of things that were. You know, uh? Relative to the game itself and to the sport and and, you know, just none of that, just all of it has fallen by the wayside. And and I know it's there. I mean it enters into my mind, you know, and you know, most of us have have gone through various events in our life. We've experienced losses. In in our own life, right? And and mothers and fathers and grandparents and. You know, brothers or sisters and and and you've gone through traumatic events. And while you're dealing with the emotions of all of that, your your brain can still can still. Go to places of of you, know the business at hand or or arrangements, or you know what I need. To do for, for for. Work or where do I got to be tomorrow? Or who do I gotta call things like that, right? And so so you know, in in the process of all the emotion that I've gone through. Since last night I still had to go to work today and you know, it's just it's I'm shocked myself at how jarring you know what we witnessed last night was to me and and what an affected it's had on me. And I know from from the reporting that's out there. I'm not alone like that, man. I mean, this is really really shook. A lot of people.

Kelly:

And I think from the reporting and things and I'm sure you probably saw this too. Uh, look, we know that, uh, football in particular is a tough game with a lot of injuries and UH-222 kind of paths of some of these injuries. I mean, you know, there's some that yes, they're very bad, but They have a known recovery, whether it's a broken bone or a hamstring or a muscle, and I'm not dismissing them, but the players know the recovery path. And for lack of a better term, there you know the the sport itself is used to them. I mean there is the other side that we're still learning about, but I think that we've gained a lot more about the the CTE and other things, and that's the unknown. But when when things like what happened last night happened? Doesn't fit into either one of those. I mean, you know. Generally speaking, 24 year olds don't die on a football field now. Even that's in the especially in the Pro world, I know what's happened in colleges and high schools, and maybe that should be getting more attention as well. When that does happen for whatever reason, maybe this will be a wake up call to us all. Whether you know what the cause of all of this was, we don't know yet. But I know I talked a lot about the stories of. Sports and I told you that's one of the things that I like. It's the stories and those stories are made-up of characters and those characters at the end of the day. As I said before, are human beings, and I think for me that's kind of, you know, and then you hear about this young man and some of the things he's done and I. Didn't really know of him before yesterday to be honest, but you know, starting a toy drive and all the people that have contributed to that and just his story, you know growing up where he grew up and. I think that we don't know a lot about a lot of these stories behind the NFL and what it what a lot of the athletes that play in these short lived careers go through just to get there. And you know, we know that's true for a lot of people. You know you can pick any job and say, well, do we really know what the story is that that? Put the mail carrier or the person that's you know. Checking this out at their grocery store. I guess for me it's a poignant reminder of. We're all human beings. We all have people that love us and care for us and that we care for and. We should just, you know. Treat each other with kindness.

Chris:

I think you know I. I'm a generally positive person and I and I try to find the positives. Even you know what happened last night was terrible. I tweeted a buddy that, you know. You know this is horrible, it's it's maybe the worst thing I've ever seen in in all my history of watching sports and and all of that is true man, that it hasn't changed him. It was terrible man. It was just horrific and. But if if you are looking for positives, you know credit to the NFL for having a plan in place for just such a thing, even though it had never happened before, there was a plan in place, you know, credit to the people who are rarely recall called upon. To perform this type of act credit to them for being prepared by all accounts when they save the dude's life so. You know they would not have if they were. If they were there just to to to win it on the fly and try and make decisions in the moment you know he he, he may not be where he is right now and I think the NFL and and the medical personnel who who responded deserve a lot of credit for being prepared. Having a plan, working the plan and. You know, we'll see he's not out of the woods yet and and you know, more information will come to light, but at least to this point, they gave him the best possible chance for survival based on their actions and and and preparedness. And I I think that you know, good for them, man, and good for the NFL and and we'll see where it goes from here. Hopefully it's good news. And you know, he makes a full recovery, that that that would be the greatest end to the story. But like I said, they deserve a lot of credit for for giving him the best possible chance at that.

Kelly:

And I think that's a part of just the world we live in. That is underappreciated. You know, we. We hear this term, first responders all the time, lately in different things, but I think we really don't appreciate what it takes to do that job to be called out to whatever. It is a a fire, a a medical situation, anything of that nature right to. Go to your training. And not know what you're going to find until you get there and to be able to to deal with that. And we saw you know. Millions of people saw first hand what it what it can do. But you know, there was probably thousands of other calls across the country in the world of first responders doing that same thing for people. And I think that is, I think about that sometimes just what it, what it takes to do that and to. Be that that prepared and called on you know you know rarely in my job am I called on. Respond to a life. You know that critical of the situation on a moment's notice and and be able to act and more power to anybody who does that work.

Chris:

Yeah, I think you hit it right in the head, you know. I mean we all have jobs right? And and there's situations that present themselves in in both of our line of works and and everyone's line of work where you're forced to. You know there's there's. There's a a call to action of some sort, but the stakes are never this high. You know, I work in roofing, I think I think we've talked about that. Nobody's lifes on the line. You know, in the moment you know and you know they they have tough job man, you know most of the time they just stand on the sidelines and and you know if that's the case for a lot of first responders, you know they spend a lot of time in their squad car or in or in their ambulance and they just kind of sit around and and wait. Firefighters the same thing, man. They're they're working out and washing their their fire truck and just kind of killing time until they're needed, but when they're needed you know they're they're asked to respond quickly and effectively, and this the, you know, the stakes are, are very high in that moment when when you know when it's their time. And, uh, last night I just, you know, I I think I. I think it was a. And and it's continued to be just a. Kind of a in a in what is a a terrible event that took place. Man it's been kind of uplifting to to see so many people. Like I said, all you know you and I talk about this sometimes. Man, just you know, we're we're all we are are all on the same team. We forget that so often, you know and. The way the Bengals responded and and the solidarity between the Bengals players who you know had every intention of doing their worst possible to the bills last night and then. This takes place and and they're hugging and embracing it and working together and the and the Bengals staff working with the Bills staff to do. Everything they could. For for you know tomorrow on on the field and and you know. Well, while it was a terrible event that took place, like I said that aspect of it is really uplifting. It's nice, it's nice to know that hey man, you know, let's keep things in perspective. You know all the rest of this stuff is is secondary now and you know this young man's health and safety is paramount. And let's all work together. To to ensure that that you know that's handled before we have anything else.

Kelly:

I think you know, and again, yes, you know across all the sports. I mean we had. Have this this competition and you know all that, but I think one of the things that you saw both in the moment and since then is. What a what. A fraternity and community and brotherhood. All of these players are with each other. And how much I think. Love and respect there is between them for the the game they play and each other playing it within a level of safety and protection. And when something happens that goes outside that. You know they all just being able to glimpse that as a fan from afar a little bit, I guess to see that connectivity, whether you're on a social media or wherever, just seeing the players all reach out and you know the genuineness that you hearing their voices, or that I'm told you saw in their faces. Last night That it is, if there is any Silver Linings or positives, it's that's that's the hope for humanity. And just things like that. That, much like we've talked about when teams win or things like that, that community, and like, that's what that's the hope that. I have maybe it's Pollyannaish, but. It's the the. The hope that I have for the world. Across a lot of things.

Chris:

Yeah, I'm I'm. I echo that exactly Kelly, you know, but I mean you know I'm as competitive a guy as as there is and you know when when we're going to compete at something me and A and a group or or or another individual I want to win. I want to win so bad and I I can guarantee you that anyone who's made it to this. You know, in the NFL and and place professionally they have a very similar mindset, you know and. But that's in the competition and. You know what happened last night is outside of the competition and you know, I, I think you know I, I know I'm the same way you know hey man I want to compete and and and do my best to defeat you on the field. But I I don't dislike you man and and I I don't wish anybody any harm and. I think last night you know these guys were playing at the highest level and there was a lot on the line with regards to the game and and and what it meant to. You know the playoffs and their their ultimate goal to try and win a championship in the league. And you know, it's just the ultimate goal changed. You know he was just like OK, now we have a new ultimate goal, which is, you know, let's save. Let's save his life and you know just. It was just a jarring perspective check, I think, to to a lot of us where. You know what I thought was important and what was mattering a great deal to me. I realized, man, it's it's. It's not now, you know. I mean that that stuff doesn't matter at all to me anymore. And I, you know, I just. I hope that as as as human beings man we we have that ability. You know, kind of check ourselves and recognize like hey man, you know treating each other kindly being there for each other, supporting each other. Help helping us. Grow a, you know, as a as a large community is still the most important thing. You know whatever. Whatever small conflicts you might have. In the immediate.

Kelly:

I couldn't say it any better and you know, uh? I'll just say to our listeners. I want to thank you again for listening to our podcast the podcast to be named later, and I think as we close this one, we'll just keep. DeMar in our thoughts and best wishes, and again we're not a breaking news event so we don't know where things will go and we'll just keep wishing for the best as we learn more.

Chris:

Yeah, and hopefully more information will come to light. Hopefully it's positive. You know I'm not in the medical profession. You know I, I just like I said I I choose to stay positive I don't think there's any harm in it to to believe that that the best case is going to happen and and. Wish for the best case and so I'll just hope that the people who responded immediately did what they needed to do to extend his chances. You know they got him resuscitated. They got him to a facility that's better equipped to handle, you know, stage two. And now he's in their hands. And you know, I assume they're going to do the very best that they possibly can for him. And you know, let's hope that you know. In the next day or two, Kelly, we get, we get some word that he's out and awake and and you know, potentially make a full recovery.

Kelly:

All right, Chris again. Thanks to everyone, especially you Chris for taking part in this. And you know the. Other things that we normally talk about. I'm sure they'll come back, but right now we just wanted to share our thoughts on this situation, and thanks to all our listeners.

Chris:

Thanks guy.